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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,813	09/16/2003	Douglas B. Hill	204694.00101	1110
27160	7590	07/16/2007	EXAMINER	
PATENT ADMINISTRATOR			OSORIO, RICARDO	
KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1025 THOMAS JEFFERSON STREET, N.W.			2629	
EAST LOBBY: SUITE 700				
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5201				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/16/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/662,813	HILL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	RICARDO L. OSORIO	2629	

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8, 12-21 and 23-44 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 20, 21, 23 and 24 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8, 12-19 and 25-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-2, 5-16, 18, 19, 25, 27-39, and 41-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Westerman et al. (7,030,861).

Regarding claims 1-2, 5, 13-14, 25, and 32-34, Westerman discloses a touch system (Fig. 7) comprising a touch surface (Fig. 7 (404)) to be contacted, or in close proximity to, by successive finger contacts (col. 6, lines 27-40, col. 7, lines 47-51, and col. 13, lines 13-24); at least one imaging device having an input region within its field of view looking generally across said touch surface into which multiple is/are moved to generate user input (Fig. 7, characters 406, and 408, and col. 9, lines 47-54); and at least one processor communicating with said at least one imaging device and analyzing images, or image data, (Fig. 7, and col. 9, lines 40-43. It is inherent that the recognition processes in Fig. 7 require at least one processor), acquired by said at least one imaging device to determine the location on said touch surface where pointer contacts are made, or the action of pointers in said input region, (Fig. 7, reference characters 410-416) when said touch surface is contacted by multiple pointers, said processor examining said multiple pointer contacts to determine if said multiple pointer contacts, or actions, data represent

a gesture (Fig. 7, reference characters 418-420) and when said multiple pointer contacts represent a gesture, said processor executing a command associated with said gesture which updates a displayed image in accordance with said gesture (Fig. 7, reference characters 422-425, Figs. 1-6, and col. 9, line 63-col. 10, line 6).

Regarding claims 12, 18, 19, and 36, specifically, further, Westerman discloses the gesture being based on movement (col. 6, lines 27-40 and col. 7, lines 47-51) and type of said multiple pointers, or fingers (col. 6, lines 33-35, and col. 7, lines 9-12, and 17-39).

Regarding claims 32, 38, and 39, specifically, further, Westerman discloses detecting type of different pointers comprising different fingers (col. 6, lines 33-35, and col. 7, lines 9-12, and 17-39).

Regarding claims 6-8, 21, 27-30, and 41-43, further, Westerman discloses detecting a first pointer contact on a touch surface that represents a left-click mouse event (Fig. 1, reference character 100, col. 3, lines 3-7, and col. 6, lines 46-48), detecting when a subsequent second pointer contact on said touch surface occurs within a threshold distance of said first pointer contact, during, and to the right of, said first pointer contact (col. 6, lines 30-34), and generating a right-click mouse event in response to said detected second pointer contact (Fig. 3, reference characters 175 and 182, col. 3, lines and col. 7, lines 22-34).

Regarding claims 31, and 44, Westerman discloses said simultaneous pointer contacts on said touch surface represent a scroll event, the direction of movement of the pointers over said touch surface subsequent to contact on said touch surface determining the direction of scroll (see Fig. 1, reference character 104).

Regarding claims 15, 35, and 37 further, Westerman discloses said detected multiple pointers are examined to determine if one of the known gestures is being performed, each known gestured being associated with a different command (Fig. 7, reference characters 419-422).

Regarding claim 16, Westerman discloses that the movement of the multiple pointers relative to the touch surface determines the gesture being performed (see Figs. 1-6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 4, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Westerman (see above) in view of Gillespie et al. (2004/0178997).

Regarding claims 3, 4, and 40, further, Westerman does not precisely teach of said multiple pointer contacts include a finger contact and an object contact, or multiple object contacts.

Gillespie teaches of multiple pointer contacts including a finger contact and an object contact, or multiple object contacts (see paragraph 34, paragraph 243, lines 9-12, paragraph 345, lines 4-7, and claims 1 and 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have contacts multiple fingers or other objects, as taught by Gillespie, in the device of Westerman to simulate on a touch surface mouse functions, as taught in Gillespie.

5. Claims 17, 24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Westerman (see above) in view of (Beaton et al. (6,310,610)).

Regarding claims 17, 24 and 26, Westerman does not precisely teach of the pointer type determining the gesture being performed.

Beaton teaches of the pointer type determining the gesture being performed (Fig. 13B, reference characters 1360-1380).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the pointer type determine the gesture, as taught by Beaton, in the device of Westerman for providing intuitive GUIs and minimizing the need for users to memorize complicated menus or procedures (see col. 8, lines 21-24).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 20, 21, 23, and 24 are allowed.

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 20, 21, 23, and 24 are allowable since certain key features of the claimed invention are not taught or fairly suggested by the prior art. In claim 20, "when said touch surface is contacted by different pointers in succession, said processing structure examining the positions of said successive pointer contacts to determine if said successive pointer contacts represent a gesture and when said successive pointer contacts represent a gesture, said processing structure executing a command associated with said gesture". The closest prior art Westerman et al. (7,030,861) discloses a touch surface contacted by successive pointer contacts to represent a gesture, however singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 6/12/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Westerman fails to teach capture images looking across the touch surface and process the captured images to detect pointer contacts.

Examiner disagrees because Westerman teaches capture images looking across the touch surface and processing of said captured images to detect pointer contacts (see col. 9, lines 47-54 and Fig. 7, sensor scanning hardware (406), and Fig. 7, image formation processes (408)).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricardo L. Osorio whose telephone number is 571-272-7676. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala whose telephone number is 571-272-7681.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: 571-273-8300 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window at the Randolph Building, 401, Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be

obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RICARDO OSORIO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Technology Division: 2629

RLO
July 7, 2007